



# VEC Workforce Center

## Resource Fair Coming to Warsaw VEC



The Warsaw VEC Workforce Center's 3rd annual Resource Fair will be held on Thursday May 18, 2006, 10AM to 3:00PM under the Big Tent. This is a great opportunity for employers, job seekers and service providers to come together and learn more about the many different resources available in our area. Last year's event was very successful with over 60 vendors and more than 300 people attending the event. Some of the area's larger employers that will be participating at the Resource Fair and have open positions are Lowe's, VDOT, Haynesville Correctional Center, Army Recruiters, and local nursing homes.

It is expected that this annual event will be once again well attended by many vendors and job seekers. David Blair, culinary instructor at the Northern Neck Technical Center, and his students will cater lunch for the event. They will have for sale home-made pork barbeque sandwiches, coleslaw,

potato chips and drinks. We also will have door prize drawings available for all vendors and attendees.

Come visit us and learn of the many employment related services and resources available in the Northern Neck and Middle Peninsula communities!



*Don Ward, Warsaw VEC Manager, speaks with the vendors at last year's Resource Fair.*

## VEC Workforce Center

### Northern Neck One-Stop Contractor's Report—3/31/06

The Warsaw Center continues to expand outreach efforts to employers, service providers, and jobseekers. The Warsaw VEC works closely with the Lancaster County Chamber of Commerce Workforce Enhancement Partnership to market and provide training and employment services to those in the lower Northern Neck counties.

The VEC Workforce Center has space available for Partner activities. Richmond County Adult Education on-site classes are currently in session. A Job Corps representative is on-site one day per month. Also representatives from the Dept. of Rehabilitation Services and the Dept. for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing are on-site two days per month.

#### Of interest:

A total of 149 clients have been active in the Program Year 2005-2006 (see chart). Once training was completed, as of 3/31/06, a total of sixty-nine clients entered training related employment. The entry-level wages of these clients range from \$5.50 to \$21.00 per hour.

To date, 34 former employees of H. Warshow, (a manufacturing plant in Tappahannock that has closed) have taken advantage of services and training opportunities through the Northern Neck One-Stop/VEC Workforce Center.

#### —Breakdown of Clients by County —

County	Adults	Dislocated Workers	Total per County
Charles City	1	0	1
Essex	10	12	22
Gloucester	1	0	1
Henrico	1	0	1
King George	1	0	1
King & Queen	0	3	3
King William	1	1	2
Lancaster	27	2	29
Mathews	1	0	1
Middlesex	5	4	9
New Kent	0	1	1
Northumberland	19	4	23
Richmond	10	13	23
Westmoreland	19	13	32
<b>Total</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>149</b>

# Employers...Do you know what the VEC can do for you??

## **Employer Services (ES) -**

The Virginia Employment Commission (VEC), a partner in the Virginia Workforce Network, is the public employment service established to assist employers in finding qualified workers and to assist workers in finding suitable jobs. There are no fees charged to the employer or applicant for our services. VEC staff will assist employers by screening and referring applicants to job openings, providing critical labor market information for business and economic planning, and coordinating statewide Employer Advisory Committee activities.

The VEC is the largest single source of job candidates in Virginia. We may have just the worker you are seeking, prepared to step into your job opening today.

Employers placed over 168,523 job openings, and the VEC made 524,809 referrals during the program year ending June 30, 2005.

### **The VEC Has:**

- Nearly half-a-million job seekers registering with us annually
- Computerized, skills-based matching to identify potential candidates – saves employer staff time and money
- Maximum exposure – 40 offices statewide and 24 hours a day on the Internet.

## **The VEC is an excellent source of information for making important business decisions:**

You can access this information by going to our website [www.vaemploy.com](http://www.vaemploy.com) and click on Labor Market Information for more detailed information in this area.

### **Labor force, Employment and Unemployment Statistics**

The figures below are for the February 2006 time period and are not seasonally adjusted.

Area	Civilian Labor Force	Number Employed	Number Unemployed	Unemployment Rate
<b>Bay Consortium (LWIA XIII)</b>	232,507	224,798	7,709	3.3%
<b>Virginia Statewide</b>	3,947,636	3,817,400	130,236	3.3%
<b>United States</b>	149,686,000	141,994,000	7,692,000	5.1%

Source: LAUS Unit and Bureau of Labor Statistics

## New Addition To Our Team!

On February 1, 2006 the Warsaw VEC was pleased to welcome Will Jacobs as our Farm Placement Specialist. Will is 25 years old and resides in Richmond, Va. He's a graduate from VCU with a Bachelors degree in Political Science.

Will is a south paw who's favorite pastimes include auto racing, bicycling, soccer, hiking and gardening. He is currently engaged and is to be married in Cozumel, Mexico on May 25, 2006. He also has two dogs named Sombra and Naulley.



Will speaks fluent Spanish which will enable him to better provide employment related services to the Hispanic community and employers of the Northern Neck and Middle Peninsula. Will's interest in the Hispanic culture and language has taken him to both Spain and Costa Rica.

Since joining us he has been working hard to develop relationships with the growers and workers and to familiarize himself with the area.

## VEC Tidbits

We also want to welcome Astrid Pleitez, Case Manager for Telamon Corp. Her office is based at the VEC Workforce Center. Telamon is a non-profit organization that will provide National Farmworker Jobs Program services. They are also a partner of the VEC. More information about Telamon and Astrid will come in the Summer 2006 newsletter.

Marilyn Carter, Warsaw WSR, conducted employability workshops at Haynesville Correctional Center for the Veterans Outreach group. This group provides information and assistance to veterans who have made mistakes after serving their country. There were approximately 45 participants for the all-day workshop.

Don Ward, Warsaw Manager, met with a new employer to the area, Townsend Racing, and introduced the services of the VEC. Townsend Racing builds NASCAR racing cars for the national circuit. They will be hiring welders, sheet metal workers, and office workers in the next few months.



The Workforce Enhancement Partnership (Partner of Northern Neck One-Stop Center/ Warsaw VEC) provided WIA and VEC information to those who visited the Lancaster County Public School Transition Fair on April 5th.

The WEP also had an exhibit on display for Lancaster High School's Career Day on April 13th. Approximately 25 businesses participated and over 500 students attended the function. It was a big success for all concerned.